

BOX: PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: Y. OKAMOTO et al
USSN 09/567,158
Filed: May 9, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1756
Examiner: N. BARRECA
For: PROCESS FOR FABRICATING SEMICONDUCTOR
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT DEVICE, AND
EXPOSING SYSTEM AND MASK INSPECTING
METHOD TO BE USED IN THE PROCESS

REQUEST FOR CONTINUATION APPLICATION
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

August 7, 2001

Sir:

This is a request for filing a continuation application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 09/567,158, filed on May 9, 2000, entitled PROCESS FOR FABRICATING SEMICONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUIT DEVICE, AND EXPOSING SYSTEM AND MASK INSPECTING METHOD TO BE USED IN THE PROCESS, by all of the inventors named in the prior application.

1. Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, including the Declaration as originally filed.

08/07/01



J1059 U.S. PTO

#2A
H-300-08
NEW

JC979 U.S. PTO

09/022656



08/07/01

09/567,158-000701

2. The Filing Fee is calculated below:

**CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION
LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY AMENDMENT BELOW
PLUS ANY CLAIMS ADDED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Basic Fee									\$ 710.00
Total Claims	1	-	20	=	0	x	18	=	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims	1	-	3	=	0	x	80	=	\$ 0.00
Total Filing Fee									\$ 710.00

3. A check including the amount of \$710.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.

4. Cancel claims 2-38 before calculating the Filing Fee.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

6. Amend the specification by inserting, before the first line:

--This is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/567,158, filed May 9, 2000, ^(now U.S. Patent No. 6,309,800) which is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 08/896,139, filed July 17, 1997, ^(now U.S. Patent No. 6,153,357) which is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 08/478,023, filed June 7, 1995 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,753,416), which is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 08/219,726, filed March 29, 1994 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,455,144), which is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 08/026,200, filed February 26, 1993 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,298,365), which is a continuation of U.S. Serial

al
No. 07/699,703, filed May 14, 1991 (now abandoned), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 07/610,422, filed November 7, 1990 (now abandoned).--.

7. New drawings are enclosed, sixty-seven (67) sheets, Figs. 1A-20D.

8. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174
Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663
John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293
Daniel J. Stanger, Registration No. 32,846
Gene W. Stockman, Registration No. 21,021.

There is a change in the correspondence address.

Address all future correspondence to:

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1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1120.

9. The prior applications are assigned to Hitachi, Ltd.

10. Priority of the following Japanese patent application(s) is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:


No. 2-247100, filed September 19, 1990;
No. 2-126662, filed May 18, 1990; and
No. 2-71266, filed March 20, 1990.

The certified priority documents were filed during prosecution of prior application Serial Nos. 07/699,703 and 07/610,422

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed

in the present continuation application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 09/567,158, as originally filed on May 9, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,


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Attorney for Applicant(s)

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